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Although there are variations, some features are characteristic of associate degree programs in nursing: (1) The majority are conducted by public junior or community colleges, (2) Program length is 2 academic to 2 calendar years, (3) Nursing theory is combined with college-level general education courses, (4) Students must meet college and nursing program admission requirements, (5) Costs and living arrangements are comparable to those for students in other curriculums, and (6) The purpose of the program is to prepare registered nurses to give patient-centered nursing care in beginning general duty positions, usually in hospitals. Prepared to assist prospective applicants and others interested in nursing education, this publication discusses admission requirements, licensure, and program accreditation. Two hundred and ninety-two state approved programs are listed, and 66 programs also accredited by the National League for Nursing are indicated. (JK)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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ASSOCIATE DEGREE EDUCATION FOR NURSING

The Need for Registered Nurses

If you have read much about nursing or have had many contacts with nurses recently, you will know that more registered nurses are urgently needed to care for patients in our nation's hospitals, nursing homes, and other health agencies. Factors that have helped to bring about this need are well known: increased population, scientific and technological advances, more health insurance programs, and growth and expansion of hospitals and other health facilities. The startling fact is that while you are reading this paragraph, new job opportunities are being created and the need for more registered nurses is increasing.

As new job opportunities in nursing have been created, new educational opportunities have become available. A comparatively new and different type of education to prepare more registered nurses is the associate degree program in nursing.

This publication provides general information about associate degree education for nursing, lists the institutions that offer state-approved associate degree programs, and indicates those that have been accredited by the National League for Nursing (NLN), which is the national accrediting agency for nursing education. The material was prepared by NLN's Department of Associate Degree Programs to assist prospective applicants and others who may be interested. For more information of a general nature, write to the department. For specific information, write to the individual programs for their nursing catalogues or bulletins.

Associate Degree Programs in Nursing

Associate degree programs in nursing became a part of the American system of nursing education in 1952. Their growth has been remarkable. In 1956, there were fewer than 25 state-approved programs. By the end of 1966, there were almost 220 state-approved programs in 41 of the 50 states and in Puerto Rico, Guam, and the American Virgin Islands. At this writing, there are 292 state-approved programs in 45 states and Puerto Rico, Guam, and the American Virgin Islands.

Although there are variations, a number of features are unique to associate degree programs:

The majority are conducted and controlled by public junior or community colleges (some are in senior colleges or universities, and a few are in private institutions).

Associate degree programs require two years to complete, which may be two academic years or two calendar years.

The course of study combines nursing theory and practice with college-level general education courses in the liberal arts and the sciences.

Students must meet requirements of the college and the nursing program for admission and for graduation.

Costs and living arrangements for nursing students are comparable to those for students in other curriculums in the college. These are usually minimal in community colleges.

The sole purpose of A.D. programs is to educate students who will be eligible for licensure as registered nurses and who will be prepared to give patient-centered nursing care in beginning general duty nurse positions, usually in hospitals.

This last feature is especially important to note if you are considering a nursing career, for within the occupation of nursing today there are many kinds of nurses with different types of education and equally dif-

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ferent job responsibilities. Despite this variety, the majority of registered nurses work in hospitals or other institutions and are engaged in giving direct nursing care to the sick. These nurses are usually called general duty or staff nurses and sometimes "bedside" nurses. Since staff nurses are responsible for direct care to patients, they must possess a high degree of technical nursing knowledge and skill and have an understanding of the scientific principles of the nursing care they give. Theirs is a demanding responsibility.

Because of its unique features, an A.D. program will meet your needs if:

You would like to become a registered nurse.

Your goal is to give nursing care to the sick as a staff nurse.

You want both a nursing education and some college-level general education.

You want to complete your education in a relatively short period of time.

You would like to obtain your nursing education in a college setting in your own community.

These unique features of associate degree education for nursing also mean that the programs are attractive to married women and others whose family responsibilities require them to live at home, to men who wish to pursue nursing careers, and to older students.

Although the associate degree program in nursing is complete for the purpose described, some of the college credits earned in the program can be applied toward a baccalaureate degree in nursing should a graduate decide later to pursue education for professional nursing. The amount of credit granted depends on the policies of the senior college or university that conducts the baccalaureate degree program.

Admission Requirements

High school graduation is the minimum requirement for admission to any school or program that prepares its graduates to become licensed as registered nurses. This includes associate degree, baccalaureate degree, and diploma programs in nursing. A school may establish any requirements it wishes above the minimum. The college preparatory, or academic, course in high school is preferred by all schools and required by some. A good academic average is essential. Since admission requirements vary, you should obtain specific information by writing to schools for their nursing catalogues or bulletins.

Licensure

All states regulate by law the practice of nursing and other health occupations. This applies equally to medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and other fields, and to nursing. Licensure, therefore, has a *legal* meaning. A license is not a degree.

A graduate of a state-approved associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or diploma program in nursing is eligible to take a state licensure examination to become a registered nurse. Licensure as a registered nurse (R.N.) means that the nurse has met legal requirements to practice in the state in which the license is issued.

The protection of the public is the basic reason for licensing laws, since the public cannot be expected to know the difference between a competent or an incompetent practitioner. In terms of public safety, a licensed practitioner of nursing, a registered nurse, is assumed to be competent. Note especially that a registered nurse's license does not indicate the type of education the nurse has had, since the R.N. may be a graduate of an associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or a diploma program in nursing.

Availability of Funds

A listing of scholarship funds is available on request from the college.

Nationally Accredited Schools

To become a licensed nursing practitioner—an R.N.—you must be a graduate of a state-approved school or program in nursing. State-approved schools have met *legal* standards set by a state board of nursing. This applies in each of the 50 states.

The American system of education includes another type of educational approval that is important for you to know about. It is called *national accreditation.*

National accreditation differs from state approval in that it is national (rather than statewide) in scope and is voluntary instead of being required by law. The National League for Nursing is the national accrediting agency for nursing education. Schools that apply for and receive national accreditation must meet national standards of excellence. These standards exceed the legal standards set by state boards of nursing. Enrolling in an NLN-accredited program is your guarantee of getting the best available nursing education of its type.

Following is a list of institutions that offer state-approved programs in nursing education leading to the associate degree. Those offering programs accredited by the National League for Nursing are printed in boldface type followed by an asterisk (*). For specific information about any nursing program, write to the director of the program, c/o the junior or community college, and request a nursing catalogue or bulletin.

ALABAMA

Birmingham—**Jefferson State Junior College***
Decatur—John C. Calhoun State Technical Junior College
Gadsden—Gadsden State Junior College

ARIZONA

Flagstaff—Northern Arizona University
Glendale—Glendale Community College
Mesa—Mesa Community College
Phoenix—**Phoenix College***
Yuma—Arizona Western College

ARKANSAS

Helena—Phillips County Junior College
Little Rock—Little Rock University

CALIFORNIA

Alta Loma—Chaffey College
Angwin—**Pacific Union College***
Bakersfield—Bakersfield College
Chula Vista—Southwestern College
Compton—Compton College
Costa Mesta—**Orange Coast College***
Cupertino—De Anza College
El Cajon—Grossmont College
Eureka—College of the Redwoods
Fresno—Fresno City College
Fullerton—Fullerton Junior College
Hayward—Chabot College
Kentfield—**College of Marin***
Long Beach—**Long Beach City College***
Los Angeles—
East Los Angeles College
Los Angeles City College*
Los Angeles Southwest College
Modesto—Modesto Junior College
Norwalk—Cerritos College
Oakland—Merritt College
Palm Desert—**College of the Desert***
Pasadena—**Pasadena City College***
Redding—Shasta College
Riverside—
Loma Linda University, La Sierra Campus
Riverside City College
Sacramento—Sacramento City College
Salinas—Hartnell College
San Bernardino—San Bernardino Valley College
San Francisco—City College of San Francisco
San Jose—**San Jose City College***
San Luis Obispo—Cuesta College
San Marcos—Palomar College
San Mateo—**College of San Mateo***
San Pablo—Contra Costa College
Santa Barbara—Santa Barbara City College
Santa Monica—Santa Monica City College
Santa Rosa—Santa Rosa Junior College
Stockton—San Joaquin Delta College
Torrance—El Camino College
Van Nuys—Los Angeles Valley College
Ventura—Ventura College
Walnut—Mount San Antonio College
Whittier—Rio Honda Junior College
Wilmington—Los Angeles Harbor College

COLORADO

Denver—Metropolitan State College
Grand Junction—**Mesa College***
Pueblo—**Southern Colorado State College***

CONNECTICUT

Bridgeport—**Junior College of Connecticut, University of Bridgeport***

DELAWARE

Dover—Wesley College

FLORIDA

Bartow—Polk Junior College
Bradenton—Manatee Junior College
Cocoa—Brevard Junior College
Daytona Beach—Daytona Beach Junior College
Fort Lauderdale—Junior College of Broward County
Fort Pierce—Indian River Junior College
Gainesville—Santa Fe Junior College
Jacksonville—
Florida Junior College at Jacksonville
Jacksonville University
Key West—Florida Keys Junior College
Lake City—Lake City Junior College and Forest Ranger School
Lake Worth—Palm Beach Junior College
Miami—Miami-Dade Junior College
Ocala—Central Florida Junior College
Panama City—Gulf Coast Junior College
Pensacola—Pensacola Junior College
St. Petersburg—St. Petersburg Junior College

GEORGIA

Albany—Albany Junior College
Americus—Georgia Southwestern College
Brunswick—Brunswick Junior College
Clarkston—DeKalb College
Columbus—Columbus College
Savannah—**Armstrong College***
Tifton—Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

GUAM

Agana—University of Guam

HAWAII

Honolulu—**University of Hawaii***

IDAHO

Boise—Boise State College
Lewiston—Lewis-Clark Normal School
Rexburg—Ricks College

ILLINOIS

Belleville—**Belleville Junior College***
Champaign—Parkland College
Chicago—
Amundsen-Mayfair College
Chicago City College, Crane Campus
Chicago City College, Southeast Campus
Chicago Heights—Prairie State College
Cicero—Morton Junior College
Dixon—Sauk Valley College
East Peoria—Illinois Central College
Elgin—Elgin Community College
Elk Grove Village—Harper College
Harvey—Thornton Junior College
La Salle—Illinois Valley Community College
Moline—Black Hawk College
River Grove—Triton College
Rockford—Rock Valley College

INDIANA

Fort Wayne—**Purdue University, Regional Campus at Fort Wayne***
Gary—**Indiana University, Northwest Campus***
Hammond—**Purdue University, Calumet Campus***
Indianapolis—
Indiana Central College*
Indiana University, Indianapolis Campus*
Purdue University, Indianapolis Campus*
Jeffersonville—Indiana University, Southeastern Campus
Kokomo—Indiana University at Kokomo
Lafayette—**Purdue University***
Vincennes—**Vincennes University Junior College***
Westville—**Purdue University, North Central Campus***

IOWA

Fort Dodge—Iowa Central Community College
Mason City—North Iowa Area Community College

KANSAS

El Dorado—Butler County Community Junior College
Hesston—Hesston College

KENTUCKY

Bowling Green—**Western Kentucky University***
Covington—Northern Community College of the University of Kentucky
Elizabethtown—Elizabethtown Community College of the University of Kentucky
Frankfort—Kentucky State College
Henderson—Henderson Community College of the University of Kentucky
Lexington—Lexington Technical Institute of the University of Kentucky
Louisville—Jefferson Community College of the University of Kentucky
Midway—Midway Junior College
Paducah—**Paducah Junior College***
Richmond—Eastern Kentucky University

LOUISIANA

Alexandria—**Louisiana State University at Alexandria***
Thibodaux—Nicholls State College

MAINE

Portland—Westbrook Junior College

MARYLAND

Arnold—Anne Arundel Community College
Baltimore—
Baltimore Junior College*
Catonsville Community College
Bel Air—Harford Junior College
Essex—Essex Community College
Frederick—Frederick Community College
Largo—Prince George's Community College
Takoma Park—Montgomery Junior College

MASSACHUSETTS

Auburndale—Lasell Junior College
Beverly—North Shore Community College
Boston—**Northeastern University***
Fall River—Bristol Community College
Greenfield—Regional Community College at Greenfield
Haverhill—Northern Essex Community College
Hyannis—Cape Cod Community College
Newtonville—Newton Junior College
Pittsfield—Berkshire Community College
South Lancaster—**Atlantic Union College***
Watertown—Massachusetts Bay Community College
West Bridgewater—Massasoit Community College
Worcester—Quinsigamond Community College

MICHIGAN

Battle Creek—Kellogg Community College
Dearborn—**Henry Ford Community College***
Flint—Flint Community Junior College
Grand Rapids—Grand Rapids Junior College
Highland Park—Highland Park College
Lansing—Lansing Community College
Livonia—Schoolcraft College
Petoskey—North Central Michigan College
Port Huron—St. Clair County Community College
Traverse City—Northwestern Michigan College
Union Lake—Oakland Community College
University Center—**Delta College***
Warren—Macomb County Community College

MINNESOTA

Coon Rapids—Anoka-Ramsey State Junior College
Hibbing—**Hibbing State Junior College***
Minneapolis—St. Mary's Junior College
Rochester—Rochester Junior College

MISSISSIPPI

Booneville—Northeast Mississippi Junior College
Ellisville—Jones County Junior College
Gautier—Gulf Coast Junior College District, Jackson County College Branch
Handsboro—Gulf Coast Junior College District, Jefferson Davis Branch
Itta Bena—Mississippi Valley State College
Meridian—Meridian Junior College
Moorhead—Mississippi Delta Junior College
Natchez—University of Southern Mississippi
Poplarville—Pearl River Junior College
Raymond—Hinds Junior College

MISSOURI

Cape Girardeau—Southeast Missouri State College
Joplin—Missouri Southern College
Kansas City—Metropolitan Junior College
Kirkwood—**Meramac Community College***
O'Fallon—Saint Mary's College of O'Fallon
St. Louis—
Forest Park Community College
Mercy Junior College

MONTANA

Havre—Northern Montana College

NEVADA

Las Vegas—Nevada Southern University

NEW JERSEY

Dover—County College of Morris
Edison—Middlesex County College
Lodi—Felician College
Mays Landing—Atlantic Community College
Newark—Essex County Community College
Paramus—Bergen Community College
Rutherford—**Fairleigh Dickinson University***
Sewell—Gloucester County College
Toms River—**Ocean County College***
Trenton—Mercer County College
Vineland—Cumberland County College

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque—University of Albuquerque
Roswell—Eastern New Mexico University

NEW YORK

Albany
Junior College of Albany*
Maria College
Alfred—**SUNY, Agricultural & Technical College***
Binghamton—Broome Technical Community College
Buffalo—Trocaire College
Canandaigua—Community College of the Finger Lakes
Canton—SUNY, Agricultural & Technical College
Corning—**Corning Community College***
Farmingdale—**SUNY, Agricultural & Technical College***
Garden City—**Nassau Community College***
Glen Falls—Adirondack Community College
Jamestown—Jamestown Community College
Johnstown—Fulton Montgomery Community College
Middletown—**Orange County Community College***
Morrisville—**SUNY, Agricultural & Technical College***
New York City—
Bayside—Queensborough Community College
Bronx—**Bronx Community College***
Brooklyn—
Kingsborough College of the City University of New York
New York City Community College of Applied Arts & Sciences*
Flushing—Queens College
Manhattan—Borough of Manhattan Community College
Staten Island—Staten Island Community College
Newburgh—Mount St. Mary's College
Niagara Falls—Niagara County Community College
Pleasantville—**Pace College***
Poughkeepsie—**Dutchess Community College***
Rochester—Monroe Community College
Selden—**Suffolk County Community College***
Stone Ridge—Ulster County Community College
Suffern—**Rockland Community College***
Syracuse—
Onondaga Community College
SUNY, Upstate Medical Center*
Troy—Hudson Valley Community College
Utica—Mohawk Valley Community College

NORTH CAROLINA

Boiling Springs—Gardner-Webb Junior College
Charlotte—Central Piedmont Community College
Fayetteville—Fayetteville Technical Institute
Morganton—Western Piedmont Community College
Murfreesboro—Chowan Junior College
Southern Pines—Sandhills Community College
Wentworth—Rockingham Community College
Whiteville—Southeastern Community College
Wilmington—Wilmington College

NORTH DAKOTA

Dickinson—Dickinson State College

OHIO

Ashtabula—Kent State University, Ashtabula Area Campus
Blue Ash—University of Cincinnati, Raymond Walters Branch
Cleveland—**Cuyahoga Community College***
Elyria—Lorain County Community College
Hamilton—Miami University, Hamilton Branch
Kettering—Kettering Medical Center, Education Division
Mentor—Lakeland Community College
Parma—Cuyahoga Community College, Western Campus

OHIO—Continued

Springfield—Clark County Technical Institute
Youngstown—Youngstown University
Zanesville—Ohio State University, Zanesville Campus

OKLAHOMA

Muskogee—Bacone College
Lawton—**Cameron State Agricultural College**

OREGON

Ashland—Southern Oregon College
Eugene—Lane Community College
Portland—Portland Community College
Salem—Salem Technical-Vocational Community College

PENNSYLVANIA

Bethlehem—Northampton County Area Community College
Cresson—Mount Aloysius Junior College
Folsom—Delaware County Community College
Gwynedd Valley—**Gwynedd-Mercy College***
Philadelphia—Community College of Philadelphia
Pittsburgh—
Community College of Allegheny, Allegheny Campus
Point Park College

PUERTO RICO

Arecibo—University of Puerto Rico, Arecibo Regional College
Humacao—University of Puerto Rico, Humacao Regional College
Mayaguez—**University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez***
Rio Piedras—Puerto Rico Junior College

RHODE ISLAND

Providence—Rhode Island Junior College

SOUTH CAROLINA

Anderson—Clemson University
Charleston—Baptist College of Charleston
Columbia—University of South Carolina, College of General Studies
Greenwood—Lander College

SOUTH DAKOTA

Aberdeen—**Presentation College***
Vermillion—University of South Dakota

TENNESSEE

Bristol—East Tennessee State University
Cleveland—Cleveland State Community College
Collegedale—**Southern Missionary College***
Columbia—Columbia State Community College
Jackson—Union University
Memphis—Memphis State University
Murfreesboro—**Middle Tennessee State University***
Nashville
Agricultural and Industrial State University
University of Tennessee

TEXAS

Alvin—Alvin Junior College
Amarillo—Amarillo College
Corpus Christi—Del Mar College
Dallas—Dallas County Junior College District
Denison—Grayson County College
Edinburg—Pan American College
Fort Worth—Tarrant County Junior College District
Galveston—Galveston Community College
Killeen—Central Texas College
Laredo—Laredo Junior College
Lufkin—Angelina College
Odessa—Odessa College
Paris—Paris Junior College
Pasadena—San Jacinto College
San Angelo—Angelo State College
San Antonio—San Antonio College
Texarkana—**Texarkana College***
Waco—McLennan Community College

UTAH

Ogden—**Weber State College***
Salt Lake City—Brigham Young University

VERMONT

Castleton—Castleton State College
Montpelier—**Vermont College***

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas—**College of the Virgin Islands***

VIRGINIA

Annandale—Northern Virginia Community College
Arlington—**Marymount College***
Chester—John Tyler Community College
Norfolk—Virginia State College, Norfolk Division
Winchester—Shenandoah College
Wytheville—Wytheville Community College

WASHINGTON

Bellevue—Bellevue Community College
Bremerton—Olympic College
Everett—**Everett Community College***
Midway—Highline College
Pasco—Columbia Basin College
Seattle—Shoreline Community College
Vancouver—Clark College
Yakima—Yakima Valley College

WEST VIRGINIA

Bluefield—Bluefield State College
Charleston—**Morris Harvey College***
Fairmont—Fairmont State College
Huntington—Marshall University
Parkersburg—West Virginia University, Parkersburg Center

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee—Milwaukee Technical College

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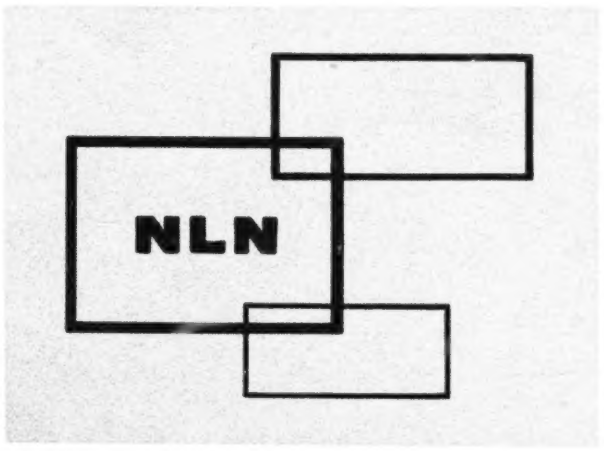

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